

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PL Planning Applications](#)
Subject: objection WSCC/046/23
Date: 21 January 2024 16:30:46

****EXTERNAL****

Dear sir/madam,

I strongly object to the above ;stop the constant requests for extensions and restore this site.

What a disgrace-Please read the following-

Planning Policy Guidance

[National Planning Policy Framework](#) (NPPF) which is the ‘rulebook’ for planning authorities when considering applications, Paragraph 217 (e) indicates that “restoration and aftercare” is required “at the earliest opportunity”.

‘Achieving Sustainable Development’ is the thread running throughout the NPPF and requires ‘Social’, ‘Economic’ and ‘Environmental’ considerations to be taken into account. Any hydrocarbon development at Broadford Bridge is NOT sustainable.

Earthquakes

The Weald is heavily faulted and there are faults directly under the drill site. David Smythe discusses this at length in his [Earthquake Report](#) - Page 15.

Prof Styles of Keele University [advises](#) that any unconventional drilling (fracking or acid stimulation) should only take place with a minimum of 850m from any faulted area.

Research from [Dr Robert Westaway](#) (Senior Research Fellow in earthquake seismology) and other geologists have concluded that the Newdigate swarm of earthquakes were caused by UKOG drilling at Horse Hill due to the faults that exist around the Weald. At the time of the enquiry, Oil & Gas Authority (now North Sea Transition Authority) and British Geological Survey said the earthquakes were not caused by UKOG as they claimed they were not on site at the time. This was proved as a lie due to drone evidence and had to admit it later.

Climate change

Predictions on the adverse effects of global warming are increasingly mounting, and any impact on climate change is a legitimate reason for local government authorities to refuse these types of applications. It is important to act responsibly now and stop hydrocarbon extraction and any impact from methane emissions in Sussex.

WSCC has issued their strategy on climate change, with commitments to net zero by 2030. How will they achieve this with further extensions to oil and gas sites just to see if they can drill for more hydrocarbons within 2 years?

Local Area

Potential contamination of water by acid and other chemicals used particularly in light of the well failure referred to in Jan 2024 newsletter.

Adversane Lane has gained from the drill being removed and the lack of HGV traffic. That should continue as they suffered from increased noise, light and disruption from the site and HGVs, as well as the wear and tear on the roads. The original estimate of 22% increase in HGV traffic was found from the survey to be 68% as the heavy traffic was not using the Advisory Lorry Network route.

WSCC Planning Committee

The planning committee needs reminding that the last time UKOG applied for an extension to retain their site at Broadford Bridge, some members of the council's planning committee questioned the need.

Speaking in 2018, Cllr Janet Duncton said if the company came back for a further extension, the committee would be "[quite tough](#)". In 2020 Cllr Simon Oakley asked how much weight should be given in the decision to the energy strategy and UKOG's reliance on data analysis at other sites. "[My patience is wearing thin with this](#)".

Geothermal

UKOG's spurious plans to use the site for geothermal energy exploration has no relevance to this licence. Any plans for an additional borehole would require a separate planning application not an addition to the current one.

It is also not clear if their 'plans' for converting the Broadford Bridge site to Geothermal Energy production involves the existing well on site.

Casing failure

There are [long term problems](#) associated with using abandoned oil wells for geothermal energy.

Regards,

S.Kinnear

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